## ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL OF LIVINGSTON COUNTY

July 6, 2011

Ms. Marlene Dortch Secretary Federal Communications Commission 445 12th Street, S.W. Washington, D.C. 20554

RE: In the Matter of applications of AT&T Inc. and Deutsche Telekom AG for consent to assign or Transfer Control of licenses and Authorizations; (WT Proceeding - No. 11-65).

## Dear Commissioners:

The Economic Development Council (EDC) of Livingston County is a nonprofit agency dedicated to creating and sustaining economic opportunities consistent with the quality of life and unique characteristics of our county. EDC is a one-stop resource for Livingston County businesses, with services including employee retention, transportation and housing, site location assistance, job training grants and tax abatements.

Our diverse local economy has roots in agriculture, but also boasts a growing manufacturing base dominated by auto-related sectors. With expanded broadband access, better service and a stronger network, our local businesses could utilize the high-powered platforms we might associate with larger businesses. Faster speeds and improved data services are particularly important for agricultural endeavors in our area, as agribusiness is characterized, today more than ever, by cutting-edge technology.

The Economic Development Council views the AT&T and T-Mobile merger as an opportunity to obtain higher-level technology and better broadband access for our residents and businesses. We ask that you please approve this merger.

Sincerely,

**Executive Director** 

CC: Chairman Julius Genachowski Commissioner Mignon Clyburn Commissioner Michael Copps Commissioner Robert McDowell

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